THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, March 30, 1807.

ACCOUNT *of* SIR HOME POPHAM's TRIAL.

(Continued from Page 233.)

"IN the course of the year 1804, a change occurred in the government of the country—soon after which I was appointed to the Antelope, in the Downs, for the purpose of blockading the harbour of Boulogne, in the absence of Admiral Louis. While I commanded that ship, Lord Melville, then first lord of the admiralty, corresponded with me on the subject of Miranda's plan, and on my coming to town in the month of October in that year (at which period the probability of a Spanish war had increased) his lordship directed me to consult again with General Miranda, and to digest my ideas on the subject of an expedition against the Spanish settlements in South America, in the form of a memoir. To the best of my recollection, I delivered this document to Lord Melville, on the 16th of October, 1804. Shortly after, I was directed to attend Mr. Pitt, at Wimbledon, in order that he might converse with me on the various points comprehended in my memoir.

"In the month of December, 1804, I was sent for by his majesty's ministers to Deal, and at the same time the Diadem, to which ship I was appointed, was put in commission for the express purpose of my proceeding in her on the intended expedition to South America. Various circumstances, however, occurred to retard the execution of this project; but with the exception of the short interval of peace, it had never been relinquished, from the moment when the idea was first suggested. These facts, as far as Lord Melville was concerned, his lordship will substantiate.

" In July, 1805, I received an account of the weak state of the garrison of the Cape of Good Hope, and also learnt that a strong squadron was expected there from France. Conceiving that the capture of this settlement, while it would materially contribute to promote the interests of my country, might likewise afford facilities to the projected conquest of the Spanish dependencies on the east coast of South America, which was a main object in the mind of Mr. Pitt, I immediately proposed to him that an armament should sail without delay for the attack of the Cape. This proposal was acceded to, and in the course of a few days, I received my instructions to proceed in the Diadem, as commanding officer of all his majesty's ships and vessels destined for that service. Mr. Sturges Bourne, then one of the secretaries of the treasury, was present at the conversation to which I here allude, and will corroborate my account of what passed on the occasion.

" On the 29th of July, 1805, I took final leave of Mr. Pitt, with whom I had a long conversation on the original project of an expedition to South America. Mr. Pitt informed me that, from the negociation then pending with Russia, it appeared that the Emperor Alexander was extremely anxious to attach Spain to the coalition, and that until that matter should be determined, he (Mr. Pitt) felt a delicacy in regard to the commencement of hostile operations in South America; but that, as soon as possible after such an overture should have been rejected by the Spanish court, it was his fixed intention to enter on the original project, and attack Spain in that distant, but most vulnerable quarter. I lament extremely that any proceeding should have made it necessary for me to state these particulars relative to the calculations upon a Spanish alliance, but the fault is not mine. Any thing that serves to shew the value attached by those from whom I derived my appointment to that object, for the execution of which I am now brought before you as a delinquent, is manifestly proper and requisite for my justification. From what I have st ted, it will, I am confident, appear evident to every member of this honourable court, that if the attack on the Cape of Good Hope preceded that on the Spanish settlements, the priority was the result of my own immediate suggestion to the late prime minister. It will likewise, I am persuaded, appear not less obvious to every unprejudiced mind, that on my interview with that illustrious statesman, he fully and unequivocally strengthened the conviction which I entertained of his intention to follow up the capture of the Cape, by an attack on the Spanish settlements; for at this final interview, Mr. Pitt desired me to furnish Mr. Huskisson with a memorandum of the names of the gentlemen from whom he was likely to obtain any further information he might want on the subject. Mr. Pitt was then leaving the secretary's room at the treasury,

treasury, to go into the board room; and Mr. Huskisson coming in at the door just at the moment, I instantly communicated to him the substance of what had passed. The veracity of this allegation will be confirmed to this honourable court by the testimony of Mr. Huskisson.

"When this chain of facts shall have been completely established by the concurrent depositions of Lord Melville, Mr. Sturges Bourne, and Mr. Huskisson, it will not be necessary for me again to urge to this honourable court, that on my leaving England, I sailed under the strongest conviction, that after having succeeded in taking the Cape, nothing would contribute so effectually to accomplish the views of those ministers by whom I had been entrusted with command, as to strike a blow in South America, before the Spaniards should be prepared against it. In fact, as there was a necessity for the squadron under my command to touch at St. Salvador for water, on its passage from England to the Cape, it was naturally to be apprehended, from the constant communication between St. Salvador and the Rio de la Plata, that every information respecting the naval and military force of the armament would be transmitted to the governors of Monte Video and Buenos Ayres. Therefore, under every view of the subject, it was most adviseable not to defer the attack on the Spanish possessions. Urgent, however, as these considerations may appear, they were not sufficiently powerful to fix my attention altogether on the immediate execution of the project referred to. Various circumstances remained to be weighed and examined, but none more particularly than the original cause of delay stated by Mr. Pitt, namely, the anxiety of the emperor of Russia to attach Spain to the coalition forming on the continent of Europe, at the time I sailed from England.

"Early in February, 1806, I received accounts of the termination of the war in India.

"In the course of the same month I also received the news of Lord Nelson's glorious victory off Trafalgar, and the account of a general coalition against France, from an alliance with which power it was evident the Emperor Alexander had not been able to detach Spain.

"Towards the end of February, a Danish vessel, which arrived at the Cape, brought English newspapers, giving an account of the fate of the Austrian army.

"By the capture of the Volontaire French frigate, on the 4th of March, I learnt the defeat of the Russian army at Austerlitz; that Bonaparte was in possession of Vienna; and that when Willaumez sailed from Brest, he left in that port no more than six ships of war, of which three only were fit for service. From a German officer, who was taken prisoner in the Volontaire, I also collected such presumptive evidence respecting the

ulterior destination of Willaumez's squadron, as induced me to adopt the idea that, after cruizing a certain time on the bank of Laguilles, he would put into the Brazils for water and refreshments, and thence proceed to the West Indies, more especially after he should have been informed that the Cape was actually taken by the British forces. Indeed, so strongly did this presumption operate on my mind, that I dispatched a small copper-bottomed transport brig to Admiral Cochrane, at Barbadoes, to apprize him of what he conceived was the most likely course to be pursued by Willaumez, as will appear by my letter to Mr. Marsden, dated ———.

" I also dispatched the Protector gun-brig to Sir Edward Pellew, in India, and the Rolla brig, to endeavour to fall in with whatever British squadron might be employed in the blockade of the Mauritius.

" These measures of precaution evince to this honourable court my extreme anxiety to communicate to the commander in chief of his majesty's naval forces in every quarter of the globe, and on every station liable to attack from the enemy's flying squadrons, such intelligence as might enable them to intercept those squadrons, or to act on the defensive, and to afford every protection in their power to the commerce of his majesty's subjects.

" While I was employed in transmitting this desirable information to the East and West-Indies, and other parts, little did I imagine that I should have been accused of not having afforded protection to the trade of his majesty's subjects, merely because I did not with my squadron become stationary at the Cape, where I was not enjoined by my instructions, or called upon by any apparent necessity to remain.

" During the late war, our cruizers were constantly either off the mouth of the river, or absolutely cruizing off Monte Video; one of the ships, indeed, which had cruized there was under my command; and, independent of every other consideration, I not only had the opinion of that respectable officer, Captain Rowley, who was on the Cape station last war, that the Rio de la Plata was conceived as a part of that station, but the unanimous opinion of every officer under my command, some of whom will, I have no doubt, give their testimony to this effect. I beg it, however, to be understood, that these opinions were expressed long before our arrival at the Cape.

" Does not this prove that the admiralty considered the Rio de la Plata as an enemy's port, which ought to be constantly watched by some of the cruizers under the orders of the senior naval officer at the Cape, and consequently within the limits of his command?—But, notwithstanding the opinion thus possessed and enforced by a former admiralty board, I

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am brought to trial by the present board for leading my squadron to attack the Spanish possessions on the Rio de la Plata, when I had every reason to believe that no French ships of war were in the vicinity of the Cape, or likely to arrive thither from Europe.

(To be continued.)

THE RING,

A Moral Tale.

By the Authoress of the Occasional Essays.

(Continued from Page 227.)

AT this moment Cudjoe entered the room, informing his master Lady Basto's carriage had driven from the door, and that her ladyship's servants and baggage were to follow in the morning.

"Very well. Is every thing ready?"

"The imperials are buckled on, and the horses may be put to, as soon as your honour shall please to order."

"I will ring. You seem surprised, my love, but when I gave directions, I did not know matters would have taken the turn they have done; and being a little angry with my girl, meant to take the citadel by storm. But now it shall be left to her own choice, whether to leave Brighton to night, or defer our journey 'till the morning?"

"To night, to night! let me fly"— but bursting into tears, and unable to proceed, threw herself into the arms of her father; who, fondly pressing her to his bosom, sealed her forgiveness with a parental kiss, and promised to obliterate the transaction.

After an easy and pleasant journey, our travellers found themselves at home; where, as usual, a routine of receiving and returning visits, though so short an absence, were regularly and ceremoniously observed. Our heroine was all life and spirit, but the parent's bosom felt pangs unutterable. Cards, as before, became the general amusement; and his daughter, so far from profiting by her late lesson of experience and mortification, seemed to engage with more avidity than ever. She betted, doubled the bets, and even challenged *gentlemen* in sums, some of whom thought it prudent to decline. Her father, at first, gently remonstrated; but, to his inconceiveable regret, found there was a spice of obstinacy in her temper, which required to be conquered with caution. What was to be done? He must subscribe to the fashion of the times, or renounce all society.

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The sums she lost were of little consequence to a fortune like his; she played with persons of honour, and in no danger of pillage by sharpers; but she played with such apparent interest, such animation and fire, that a spirit for gaming seemed to be interwoven with her very being, and would gradually rob her of that true feminine delicacy, without which no woman, whatever might be her accomplishments, beauty, or rank, *can* charm. In short he began to seriously wish she was well married, but as she had never shewn a partiality for any man, and had received many honourable proposals with disgust, he had little hope a passion for play, would easily give place to the passion of love; and almost feared that every fine feeling, and virtuous sensation of the heart and mind, together with his fortune, when it became her own, would be swallowed up at the gaming table, and inevitable ruin ensue.

Some races being announced, at a few miles distance, Maria expressed a wish to be present; happy to oblige and indulge her, the fond parent sent to engage private apartments, that his daughter might not be incommoded with the bustle of an inn.

She appeared much delighted with this scene of novelty, and dressed with pleasure for the ball. Her clothes were fancied with great taste, her father was charmed with her appearance, and she looked loveliness itself. On their entering the ball-room, the company received them with great respect; the charming girl became an object of general attention; the men looked all wonder and admiration, and the women all envy; but the assemblage of company was not of a cast our heroine had been used to; as consisting chiefly of pert, over-dressed misses, under the protection of vulgar, matronly mothers, with an assortment of coxcombly beaus; indeed, some persons of fashion, expected, had not yet arrived, and the room was thin.

Mr. Truman and his daughter seated themselves in a corner, entertaining themselves with general observation, when a stranger entered the room, habited in a manner that attracted the notice of the whole company. His hair undressed, his clothes very plain and dusty, and if not quite mean, he was altogether too much in dishabille, to enter a public assembly with propriety, and he was also in boots. The stranger bowed to the company at large, and though but a sort of sliding bow, yet there was something in his air and manner so dignified, such manly elegance, and the bow so peculiarly graceful, that Mr. Truman was particularly struck, nor did it pass unnoticed by his daughter. As for the rest of the company, they were of a description on which the handsomest bow in the world would produce no other effect than contempt, unless the person bowing was tricked out in his holi day suit, and even then, the bow of some country dancing masters, would be as much approved,

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and more likely to hit their taste. The stranger took a turn, and addressed himself to some of the misses. One tossed her head; a second flirted her fan; a third giggled; the matrons drew up, and looked gravely contemptuous. The beaus shrugged up their shoulders. One coxcomb laughed, another sneered, a third gave a whew! and a fourth whispered—"I wonder who the fellow is?" In short, there was scarce one that was not tempted to exhibit some specimen of *good breeding*, which seemed to pass entirely unheeded by the stranger. When turning his eye where Mr. Truman and his daughter sat retired, appeared suddenly struck; but, as if recollecting himself, made another very graceful bow both to the lady and gentleman, which compliment was as politely returned. Truman, as if willing to make some amends for the rudeness of the company, made an advance to conversation, which was politely accepted.

Truman, as it has been observed, was a very handsome man, and an elegantly proportioned figure; he was naturally very fair, too delicately so; and the brown tinge of the torrid zone, so far from a defect, added manliness to his features; he was still in the middle prime of life, well dressed, and by the light of candles, appeared some years younger than he really was; and the stranger observing he addressed the lady with great tenderness and affection, concluded her his wife, and fearing to create any jealous sensation, the lady being so uncommonly beautiful, seated himself by the side of her supposed husband. The two gentlemen soon dropped into a political conversation, in which the stranger appeared quite an adept, and delivered himself with such perspicuity, knowledge, and sound patriotism, that Truman was entirely charmed: he looked on him not only as a very sensible, well-informed man, but the best bred and finest gentleman he had ever conversed with in his life. Converse taking another turn, the stranger enquired if the lady meant to dance? Truman replied, "I believe, Sir, she came with that intention." The gentleman then began to regret his appearance, saying he was but just arrived, and had stept into the ball-room merely with an intention to look at the company and retire, but he now felt severely mortified for his neglect of exteriors, as, in such a dishabille, he could not, with propriety, solicit the honour of the lady's hand, should she not be engaged with a partner. Truman replied with a smile, "You are now, Sir, with those who look beyond exteriors for the mark of approbation;" and turning to his daughter, said "What say you, my dear, do you think you can go down a country dance with a partner in boots?"

At this moment a waiter entered the room, announcing aloud, "A servant below has a letter for Earl Grandfield, and waits for an answer."

The gentleman arose, apologised for leaving the lady for a few minutes, but would return as soon as possible.

Here another scene was exhibited by the company, very opposite to the last. The men (I mean the coxcombs) looked on one another with a vacant stare, like beings planet struck; in one moment their whole stock of self-sufficiency and importance was dismissed, and themselves dwindled into what nature intended them, mere *nothings*.

The *misses* became all fevered with the spirit of mortification, each supposing she had lost the honour of dancing, with a lord for a partner, and who, perhaps, attracted by her beauty, might have made her a countess, through a ridiculous mistake; and half the fans in the room were shivered to atoms, in the violent exercise of producing artificial air, to keep their owners from fainting.

At length an old vulgar piece of unwieldy, matronly lumber, who had assumed the consequence of queen of the company, in a voice hoarse and loud as a boatswain's, thus broke silence:

"So! girls, why we have made a fine kettle of fish of it! As for myself, though I *says* it, I *knows* good manners, as well as any lady in company; but one cannot be a witch. Had the *gem'man tould* me he was a lord, why I *sartinly* should have behaved like a gentlewoman, as indeed I did; for what gentlewoman would demean herself, by shewing any manners to *scroff!* I knows the world, and it is my *maxum* to look upon people shabbily drest as *scroff*. Why a common gem'man would not have come to an assembly among ladies, like we, in such a coat, much more a lord! I have seen lords before now, and ladies too. There was Lady *Flam*, at the last general election, would chat with me as familiarly as you please; she gave me this handsome necklace and ear-rings, with her own hands, and said how well they would become me. Mrs. Dowlas, says her ladyship, you are an excellent, prudent wife, and with so much beauty, cannot fail to influence so discerning a man as Mr. Dowlas. This is likely to turn out a warm contest; you are a sensible, polite woman, far above some ladies that shall be nameless, and I am sure too much the *gentlewoman*, and my *friend*, not to prevail with Mr. Dowlas, to give his vote to Sir John. And so I did, or I would have made the house too hot to hold him."

(To be continued.)

ABSTRACT *of the* TRAINING ACT.

WE present our readers with the following abstract of the most material parts of the training act, for the

execution of which directions have been issued by government.

PERSONS LIABLE.

All persons between the ages of 18 and 45, and liable to serve in the militia, are liable to be trained and exercised under this act. Also persons of the following descriptions, although exempt from serving in the militia, viz. articled clerks or apprentices, persons employed in docks or dock-yards, tower of London, Woolwich warren, gun-wharfs, at Portsmouth, powder-mills and store-houses, under the direction of the board of ordnance. Also persons being free of the company of watermen of the river Thames; poor persons having more than one child born in wedlock; persons serving by substitute in the militia, or under any act or acts for raising any additional force for the defence of the realm.

PERSONS EXEMPT.

All licensed teachers of any separate congregation in holy orders, and not exercising any other trade except that of a schoolmaster; and all medical men actually practising as such, and being housekeepers, to be exempt from the operation of the act, so long as they shall respectively continue within any of the descriptions aforesaid.

NUMBERS TO BE RAISED.

His majesty may direct any number, not exceeding 200,000 men, to be found by the counties of England and Wales, for the purposes mentioned in the act. Each county to furnish a certain proportion of such 200,000 men according to the numbers returned liable to serve in the militia; such proportion to be determined by his majesty's privy council. The number so fixed for each county to be divided among the hundreds thereof, at general meetings of lieutenancy; the numbers fixed for each hundred to be divided among different parishes thereof, at subdivision meetings of lieutenancy; the numbers fixed for each parish to be then transmitted to the constable thereof.

BALLOT.

The number fixed and required for any parish to be ballotted for at subdivision meetings to be appointed by lords lieutenant; and the names ballotted to be put upon a subdivision roll to be kept for the purpose.

PARISH EXEMPTION.

But in any parish where a ballot is directed to be made, if any persons between the ages of eighteen and thirty, and fit for

military service, shall volunteer to be trained and exercised in the same manner as persons ballotted to serve under the act, and shall amount to the number to be enrolled in such parish, according to the apportionment, then no ballot to take place. Or if a less number shall so volunteer in any parish, the remainder of the apportionment only to be ballotted for in such parish; and his majesty may allow to such volunteers, pay at the rate of 1s. per day, for 24 days additional training, or a bounty not exceeding 10s. in addition to 1s. per day for 24 days exercise to be performed under the act in each year.

TRAINING.

The number of persons to be furnished by each parish having been ascertained, and the names of the persons liable to be trained and exercised in each parish, having been determined by ballot and enrolled, his majesty may direct that the whole number of persons so enrolled shall be immediately called out to be trained and exercised: or that any part or proportion of such number so enrolled, shall be trained and exercised; and that such part or proportion shall be taken either by ballot, or according to the order in which the names shall have been drawn and put upon the subdivision rolls; or that any class or classes of the whole number enrolled, either with respect to age, marriage, or number of children, shall be trained and exercised.

TIME OF SERVICE.

All persons enrolled to be trained and exercised to continue liable to be trained for first year 'till 1st of November, 1807. And all persons so enrolled in any succeeding year, to continue liable to be trained from 1st of November, in the year in which such persons shall have been or ought to have been ballotted or enrolled until the 1st day of November following. But persons actually trained in any year, not to be liable to be ballotted for again during the two following years; such years to be reckoned from the 1st of November in one year, to the 1st of November in the next.

Individual exemptions from training by payment of a fine or by entering into a volunteer corps.

Times and places to be appointed by deputy lieutenants in each subdivision, when and where every volunteer or person ballotted and enrolled will be required to attend and sign the training regulations (see below). And any such volunteer or person enrolled neglecting to appear at the time and place appointed, as above mentioned by deputy lieutenants, to forfeit the sum of 10l. or if his income be less than 100l. per annum, to forfeit the sum of 5l. such fine to exempt the person paying

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it from training and exercise for that year and no longer, and so on in each succeeding year.

Any person ballotted who shall, at any time, whether before or after his being so ballotted, have enrolled, or enrol himself in a volunteer corps accepted by his majesty, shall be exempt from the operation of the act so long as he continues an effective member of such volunteer corps. And where any person ballotted in any parish shall have so enrolled himself in a volunteer corps accepted, and shall serve therein, such parish will not be required to find another person to be trained and exercised under this act in lieu of the person so becoming an effective member of such volunteer corps. Quakers and united brethren to be exempt on payment of a fine not exceeding 7l. nor less than 20s. per annum, according to their situations in life.

Persons of bodily inability to be exercised to be excused serving on producing a proper certificate.

Times and places of training and exercise to be fixed by deputy lieutenants (subject to directions of his majesty's secretary of state;) but no person to be required to attend more than 24 days exercise in each year, nor to go to any greater distance than five miles from his usual place of residence, for the purpose of being trained and exercised. One constable in every parish to attend at the times and places appointed for exercise, and to receive an allowance for his trouble. His majesty may appoint commissioned and non-commissioned officers for training the persons enrolled to be trained and exercised, and to serve under this act.

This act contains also provisions for calling out and embodying, on the apprehension of invasion, persons who have been enrolled to be trained and exercised, and to serve.

SCHEDULE.

Rules and Regulations relating to Persons enrolled under an Act for the Defence of the Realm.

All persons trained under this act to be allowed pay for twenty-four days, at one shilling per day.

To attend at the places and times fixed for exercise, and obey all orders of officers or serjeants relating to training and exercising, during times of exercise; to take due care of arms; and to deposit them where required.

FINES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE.

Forfeiture of pay, and ten shillings for every day short of eight days in each four months, if days shall be so appointed;

or for every day short of twenty-four days, if days shall be appointed yearly.

Persons not having or receiving any annual sums of money, profits, gains, allowance, or other income, amounting in the whole to one hundred and fifty pounds per annum, to forfeit five shillings instead of ten shillings, for each of such absences.

Persons not having any annual sum of money, profits, gains, allowances, or other income, amounting in the whole to fifty pounds per annum, to forfeit two shillings instead of ten shillings, for each of such absences.

Persons excused from poor rates, or being part of the family of any persons excused from poor rates by reason of poverty, and who are by reason thereof exempt from the payment of such rates and duties, to forfeit two shillings instead of ten shillings, for each of such absences.

Persons prevented by illness, certified by physician, surgeon, or apothecary, actually practising, or clergyman and constable, to satisfaction of deputy lieutenant, or justice of the peace or magistrate, to forfeit only pay.

Persons absent on business, and making good days on any succeeding period, to have fines returned for such days, by order of deputy lieutenant or justice, on certificate of serjeant and constable.

Persons removing during the year from the parish or place of residence, to have a certificate of exercise up to the time of removal, from the officer or serjeant, or in the absence of any officer or serjeant, the constable or other peace officer of the parish or place (which they are hereby required to give on demand thereof, without fee or reward).

On production of such certificate to any deputy lieutenant, or justice of the peace of the division, or to the officer, serjeant, or constable of the parish or place to which such person shall remove, such person to be entered as if ballotted, in such parish or place, and to be there trained and exercised, and to have credit for the days of exercise contained in his certificate.

Producing of such certificate, and conforming to regulations of this act in parish or place of subsequent residence, to exempt from fines for non-attendance in the first parish or place.

During absence from parish, certificates of training and exercise in any other parish to be received, and to exempt from fines in parish of enrolment for those days.

Person enrolled and afterwards leaving Great Britain, and giving notice to constable, discharged from penalties for not training and exercising, so long as he shall continue out of Great Britain.

Person

Person absent for temporary purposes only, from the parish of enrolment, training and exercising, who shall on return prove to satisfaction of any deputy lieutenant, or justice of the peace or magistrate, that he could not train and exercise during such absence, either by reason of travelling, or not continuing a sufficient length of time in one place, or there being no training and exercising in the parishes or places in which he shall have been during such absence, may, by such deputy lieutenant, or justice or magistrate, be discharged from fines during such absence.

FOR MISCONDUCT.

For irregular conduct, or not behaving in an orderly manner, or disobeying the lawful commands of any officer or serjeant, commanding or training, or exercising, to forfeit pay of the day, and any sum not exceeding ten shillings, at the discretion of any justice of the peace, magistrate, or deputy lieutenant.

Officer or serjeant empowered to deliver any such person into the custody of the constable, to be by him taken before a justice of the peace, or deputy lieutenant, so that such person shall not be kept in custody for any night previous to being taken before a magistrate.

All fines may be levied by distress under the act; and, if no distress, offender may be imprisoned for any period not exceeding two days, for non-payment of any fine not exceeding five shillings, and not exceeding five days for any fine not exceeding twenty shillings, in addition to any adjudged imprisonment.

Muster rolls to be kept by serjeant and constables, to be returned to clerk of subdivision meetings, and to commanding officer of district.

Roll to be called at the hour of meeting.

Persons coming after roll call not to be entitled to be inserted in muster.

Serjeants and constable to give certificates, on demand, to every person belonging to any other parish who shall train and exercise, of his having trained and exercised according to the act, and of the number of days, specifying the days on which he shall have so exercised.

Serjeant or constable taking any money or bribe, or gift of any sort, for any false muster, or for the training or exercising of any men, or for any certificate, to be fined ten pounds, and treble the money or value of gift received, and imprisoned at the discretion of the justice or deputy lieutenant, not exceeding two months, (to be recovered and applied as any penalty or forfeiture under fifteen pounds, may be recovered under this act.)

Fines

or for every day short of twenty-four days, if days shall be appointed yearly.

Persons not having or receiving any annual sums of money, profits, gains, allowance, or other income, amounting in the whole to one hundred and fifty pounds per annum, to forfeit five shillings instead of ten shillings, for each of such absences.

Persons not having any annual sum of money, profits, gains, allowances, or other income, amounting in the whole to fifty pounds per annum, to forfeit two shillings instead of ten shillings, for each of such absences.

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Muster rolls to be kept by serjeant and constables, to be returned to clerk of subdivision meetings, and to commanding officer of district.

Roll to be called at the hour of meeting.

Persons coming after roll call not to be entitled to be inserted in muster.

Serjeants and constable to give certificates, on demand, to every person belonging to any other parish who shall train and exercise, of his having trained and exercised according to the act, and of the number of days, specifying the days on which he shall have so exercised.

Serjeant or constable taking any money or bribe, or gift of any sort, for any false muster, or for the training or exercising of any men, or for any certificate, to be fined ten pounds, and treble the money or value of gift received, and imprisoned at the discretion of the justice or deputy lieutenant, not exceeding two months, (to be recovered and applied as any penalty or forfeiture under fifteen pounds, may be recovered under this act.)

Fines

Fines to be collected by constable or any overseer of the poor, and to be paid to overseer of the poor, and the account to be kept by them of amount.

To be subject to distribution according to orders, under the act.

Deputy lieutenant may with approbation of lieutenant, and his majesty, establish rewards for skill in firing at target with ball, under any regulation to be approved of by general officer of the district, and lieutenant to be paid out of fines.

DEATH-WATCH.

AMONG the popular superstitions which the almost general illumination of modern times has not been able to obliterate, the dread of the death-watch may well be considered as one of the most predominant, and still continues to disturb the habitations of rural tranquillity with groundless fears and absurd apprehensions. It is not indeed to be imagined that they who are engaged in the more important cares of providing the immediate necessaries of life should have either leisure or inclination to investigate with philosophic exactness the causes of a particular sound: yet it must be allowed to be a very singular circumstance, that an animal so common should not be more universally known, and the peculiar noise which it occasionally makes, be more universally understood.

It is chiefly in the advanced state of spring that this alarming little animal commences its sound, which is no other than the call or signal by which the male and female are led to each other, and which may be considered as analagous to the call of birds; though not owing to the voice of the insect, but to its beating on any hard substance with the shield or forepart of its head. The prevailing number of distinct strokes which it beats is from seven to nine or eleven; which very circumstance may perhaps still add, in some degree, to the ominous character which it bears among the vulgar. These sounds or beats are given in pretty quick succession, and are repeated at uncertain intervals; and in old houses where the insects are numerous, may be heard at almost every hour of the day; especially if the weather be warm. The sound exactly resembles that which may be made by beating moderately hard with a nail on a table.

The insect is of a colour so nearly resembling that of decayed wood, viz. an obscure greyish brown, that it may for a considerable time elude the search of the enquirer. It is about a quarter of an inch in length, and is moderately thick in proportion, and the wing-shells are marked with numerous irregular variegations, of a lighter or greyer cast than the ground-colour.

colour. Ridiculous and even incredible as it may appear, it is an animal that may in some measure be tamed: at least it may be so far familiarized as to be made to beat occasionally, by taking it out of its confinement, and beating on a table or board, when it will readily answer the noise, and will continue to beat as often as required.

We must be careful not to confound this animal, which is the real death-watch of the vulgar, emphatically so called, with a much smaller insect of a very different genus, which makes a sound like the ticking of a watch, and continues it for a long time without intermission. This latter belongs to a totally different order, and is the *termes pulsatorium*, of Linnæus.

Anecdote of the late Lord Thurlow, and Mr. Pitt.

LORD THURLOW was a striking instance of anomaly, in the general rule of the goddess fortune. Very seldom does it occur that a man of his disposition becomes the architect of his own fortune. Rough and boisterous as Æolus, unaccommodating as John Bull, indolent as a Spanish grandee, he seemed of all mankind the least likely to attract the regard of patrons, and was utterly incapable of those arts by which men are accustomed to thrive in courts. He possessed a natural quickness of parts and sagacity, together with that promptitude of decision, so often found in bold minds of middling depth. He had acquired a moderate share of learning. Happily for his character, his sturdiness and vigour were often apparent in the cause of justice, to which he had a strong bias from nature, and from which he never deviated, but through the blindness of prejudice. Nature, thinking it sufficient to make Thurlow just, bestowed on others of her family the softer virtues of sensibility, sympathy, and condescension.

The accidental circumstance of a litigation of high consequence, proved the foundation-stone of Lord Thurlow's fortune. A man of talents, capable of wading suddenly through a mass of legal drudgery, was in immediate request:—as it often happens, both in high and low life, men of generally indolent characters are equal to great temporary exertions, and oftimes the encouraging prospect of ultimate success is sufficient to stifle the general feeling in such, and to bring them through to the goal. Two cases fortunately concurred to favour the progress of Thurlow: he was of that profession, of all others, the most favourable to advancement in life; and his political principles coincided, not only in semblance, but in ardent reality, with those of the faction which (under whatever ostensible persons,

titles, or pretensions) has been invariably paramount in our government, during the present reign. Lord Thurlow's mind was, however, accessible to modern light, and the shock which his prejudices received, was not only a source of much disquiet in his latter days, but, *inter alia*, the cause of his bearing, of late years, no ostensible share in public business.

It is well known that Lord Thurlow was one of the earliest and chief instructors of the juvenile and heaven-born minister; and it has been said by near observers, that had his lordship's advice been taken, in some very important points, the Jehu-like career of the court would have been moderated, and the character of Pitt, in some degree, rescued from those stains which now, notwithstanding the unceasing efforts of factious sophistry and prejudice, must eternally adhere to it. The haughty soul of Pitt would not truckle to a man whom he perceived to be his superior only in years, and Pitt had not the discernment justly to appreciate that species of superiority. The struggles of these two, and they related to subjects of far greater moment than was generally supposed, became constant and violent, when a feather turned the scale; as great revolutions sometimes have arisen from the most trifling and contemptible sources. A single word, and that of the most ludicrous type, here proved decisive: and Pitt, who had hitherto endured, with as much patience at least as could be expected from the irascibility of his temperament, the ferociousness of his over-bearing competitor, lost not only his remaining stock of patience, but even nearly his wits, at being foully branded with the designation of *a vermin!*—in public debate. Nothing could close the breach made by this formidable word—neither the cajoling representations of mutual friends, the common interests of party, nor even the interposition of authority. It came to this point, one or the other must be lost to the court, and the king's friends determined on keeping the younger. *Thus perished Don Mathias de Silva, for sending mal appropos, a billet-doux*: and thus did a * for making an *improper* use of the word vermin!

Lord Thurlow, however, continued to the end of his life an honorary member of the interior cabinet, and was ever consulted, on great emergencies, by that ruling party before which both Pitt and Fox were compelled to bow with submission. And it is honourable to the memory of this nobleman, to record the fact, that if not beloved, he was respected, and his opinion held in high estimation by both parties; and that he kept them both at a commanding and equal distance.

O.

CONSOLATIONS *of* LITERATURE.

By Mr. CUMBERLAND.

WHAT cause have I not had to bless my God for having endowed me with that untried attachment to my books and to my pen (those never-failing comforters and friends), which has enabled me to meet and patiently to endure many crosses and some misfortunes of no common magnitude. How fortunate am I, now in the winter of my age, that never in the sunshine of my younger days, when the world comparatively smiled upon me, did I sink into idleness, or surrender myself to any pleasures, that could rival those more temperate and permanent resources, which education and early habits of study had supplied me with.

There is no sure way of providing against the natural ills, that flesh is heir to, but by the cultivation of the mind. The senses can do little for us, and nothing lasting. When they have for a time enjoyed every thing they can wish for, they will ultimately be led to wish for what they can no longer enjoy. A man who wants mental powers, wants every thing; for though fortune were to heap superfluities of every species upon him, the very overflowings of prosperity would destroy his peace, as an abundance of things without can never compensate for a vacuity within.

Method to ascertain whether Wines are adulterated with Sugar of Lead.

PUT into a phial a paste made of iron-filings and sulphur, pouring afterwards into it some drops of sulphuric acid, and liberating the gas which is produced from the mixture into a flask filled with water, by means of a bent tube with which the phial is furnished. Poured upon unadulterated wine, this water does not occasion the least change in it; while, on the other hand, it renders the wine, adulterated with sugar of lead, black and flaky, and produces an abundant precipitate, which soon falls to the bottom of the vessel.

A QUESTION, *by W. Smith, of Saltash.*

BEING employed to measure a field in form of a trapezium, I found its four sides to measure 10, 23, 36, and 49 chains respectively; from this data is required to find the area of the trapezium, in acres, by a theorem that will solve like questions.

Answer, by Somebody, of Awliscombe, to Oedipus's Enigma, inserted December 29.

THE fairest of the fair must die,
To ASHES turn, and silent die.

Answer, by J. Ryan, Stonehouse, to J. Whittle's Anagram, inserted January 12.

TO HEAL, if you transpose aright
LEAH, your sister's name in sight.

☞ We have received the like answer from J. Salter, of Broadhembury; J. A. Dyer, of Taunton; B. Belcher, of Stonehouse; P. Codd, and R. Gidley, of Dean Prior; H. Ellis, P. Gove, J. C. Cooke, W. Commins, J. S. and H. Stoneman, of Exeter; John Woodman, of North Curry; G. A. T. Arden, of South Petherton; J. Joyce, and J. Tucker, of Tiverton; J. Whitnell, of Street; M. P. M. of Maraaion; Rusticus, of Awliscombe; G. P. O. of Beer; J. Fairweather, of Batson; J. C. Goodland, of Langport; Palemon, of Flushing; W. D. of Bristol; G. S. of Egg Buckland; A. F. of Melbury Osmond; W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; J. Lewis, of Poole; J. Ninnis, of St. Agnes; T. Bullock, of St. Columb; W. H. H. of Totnes; and J. Medland, of St. Budeaux.

Answer, by J. A. Dyer, of Taunton, to T. Rutger's Anagram, inserted Jan. 12.

THE words which you require, Sir, I perceive,
Are VILE and EVIL, VEIL, LEVI, and LIVE.

*** Similar answers have also been received from Rusticus, of Awliscombe; G. Spry, of Egg Buckland; J. Ryan, of Stonehouse; J. Salter, of Broadhembury; J. Whitnell, of Street; J. Joyce, and J. Tucker, of Tiverton, W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; H. Ellis, H. Stoneman, and J. S. of Exeter; G. S. of Egg Buckland; J. Ninnis, of Agnes; W. D. of Bristol; and P. Codd, of Dean Prior.

A REBUS, *by L. Livercock.*

IMPRIMIS, first a sovereign's daughter find,
A sovereign fam'd for a capacious mind;
A horned animal next bring to light;
And next a wound unseemly to the sight;
Next from Steele's list select a vessel's name;
Lastly, a port where I have seen the same:
The initials join'd, and plac'd in order true,
A foreign gen'ral's name 'twill bring to view.

A REBUS, *by T. Bullock, of St. Columb.*

AH dreary first! throughout thy reign,
What monsters prowl the Afric plains,
What growls and horrid roar;
A snare must next be brought to sight,
Which, gents. you'll metamorphose right,
My second to explore.
Lastly, a liquor deign to find,
And then you'll quickly call to mind,
My sweet, enchanting whole;
O! sweet, harmonious whole, thy strain,
Thy music thrills thro' every vein,
And charms the list'ning soul.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

NIGHT.

WHEN Sol withdraws his golden ray,
And sinks beneath the main,
Mild twilight takes the place of day,
And holds her sombre reign.

The songsters seek the mossy nest,
As night exerts her power;
Where, locked within the arms of rest,
They pass the midnight hour.

Now Cynthia, from the dark blue sky,
Sheds silvery rays around;
The planets thro' their orbits fly,
To heaven's remotest bound.

The stars emit their twinkling light,
And gild the face of heaven;
Where decked with innate radiance bright,
They far outshine the seven.*

Thus all their different courses run,
'Till morn proclaims the rising sun;
When lost in solar rays divine,
They *seem* to cease in heaven to shine.

Bristol. W. C.

* In reference to the seven planets.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The Call of Honour, or Britain's Appeal to Arms, written in 1802.

UNFURL the standard, honour cries,
With union and indignant zeal:
'Tis done, a British host replies,
To arms, to arms, we all appeal.
Hark! the cannon's deadly roar,
With the din of arms unite:
Whilst resound, from shore to shore,
We for peace and freedom fight.

Bright glows the patriotic flame;
A flame which every bosom warms!
Whose praise shall swell the trump of fame,
And Europe call to arms! to arms!
Hark! &c.

Dar'd by a tyrant to the field,
Lo! single-handed we advance,
The temple of our rights to shield,
And scourge the insolence of France!
Hark! &c.

Can we permit a horde of slaves
To shake the altar, or the throne?
To brave the empire of the waves,
And call this happy isle their own?
Hark! &c.

Shall they our equal laws profane,
And rend the ties of social life?
Or pluck the gen'rous lion's mane
Whilst beats the pulse of martial strife?
Hark! &c.

No—rather than ignobly fly,
Or barter freedom for a chain,
Ye gods! let every Briton die,
And sink this island in the main.
Hark! &c.

Our sea-girt island is our boast;
Sound, sound the trumpet, beat the drum!
With hand and heart we'll guard the coast,
Should all their hostile legions come.
Hark!

To us the sacred trust belongs;
Nor shall Thermopylæ outdo
Our efforts to avenge her wrongs,
And meet the proud, invading foe.
Hark! &c.

Let Britain mount her naval car,
And launch the thunder from her hand;
For Neptune smiles—and radiant war
Bids victory hover o'er the land.
Hark! &c.

Be nerv'd each arm, each heart be strong,
With manly, firm, indignant zeal;
Conquest or death must be our song;
To arms, to arms, we all appeal.
Hark! the cannon's deadly roar,
With the din of arms unite:
Whilst resounds, from shore to shore,
"We for independence fight."

Dock, Devon,

SONNET.

By VERACITAS.

WHEN to beguile stern winter's gloomy hour,
The village household crowd around the fire;
The child with pains completes his paper tower,
And joyous runs to tell his smiling sire;
Yet, as he runs, one envious breath of air,
Breathes to the ground the object of his care.

Anxious again his infant work he plies,
His hands each card in trembling caution lay;
Once more the rising fabric glads his eyes,
With joy he pants, and waits his hopes away.

So does mankind, joy's airy fabric raise,
The sport of ev'ry breath of floating air;
Its fleeting form just gives us time to gaze,
Then falls, too weak enjoyment's touch to bear!